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INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10. PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD

PEMBROKESHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE

YEAR 1948

PICKFORD & SONS, PRINTERS, PENARTH.

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COUNTY OF PEMBROKE.

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10. PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD

PEMBROKESHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the work of the School Medical Service for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

No serious epidemics of infectious disease have occurred during the year. The effect of several years of immunisation against Diphtheria is shown by the steady reduction of notifications of this disease. During the year no cases were notified and no recorded deaths were attributed to this disease.

School meals are now available at every school in the County. Improved physique and greater mental alertness have followed the introduction of the Schools Meals Scheme.

Dr. Dorothy M. Rees left the County Health Department after 23 years' service, to take up the post of District Medical Officer for the Eastern Combined Districts. but the County still retains her part-time services in Childrens' Care and refraction work.

In conclusion, I must express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their help and consideration during the past year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. MIDDLETON,

School Medical Officer.

April, 1949.

GENERAL INFORMATION

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, 1948.

Chief School Medical Officer (who is also County Medical Officer):

H. MIDDLETON, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officers (who are also Assistant County Medical Officers for Maternity and Child Welfare):

DOROTHY M. REES, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

(Resigned, 30/11/48).

M. W. JENKINS, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch.

District Medical Officers for Western and Eastern Districts acting as Part-time Assistant School Medical Officers:

A. D. WHITELAW, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

(Resigned 30/11/48),

DOROTHY M. REES, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

(Appointed 1/12/48).

W. J. Y. SPEEDY, M.B., B.Ch., L.R.C.P. & S., D.P.H.

School Dental Officers:

O. C. JENKINS, L.D.S., R.C.S., D.D.S.,

E. A. G. HILTON, L.D.S., R.C.S.

D. H. W. HARDING (Part-time).

Orthopædic Surgeon:

NATHAN ROCYN JONES, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Plastic Surgeon:

EMLYN E. LEWIS, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Surgeons: THE STAFFS OF THE VARIOUS HOSPITALS.

Chief School Nurse (who is also County Superintendent of Nurses):

M. A. GIBBS-JONES, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Assistant School Nurses:

E. J. JAMES, S.R.N., S.C.M. (who is also County Health Visitor and Orthopædic Nurse).

E. MERRIMAN, S.R.N., S.C.M.

School Nurses: 50 Part-time District Nurses.

Chief Clerk: W. J. AUSTIN.

HEADQUARTERS:

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 23, HILL STREET,
HAVERFORDWEST.

GENERAL INFORMATION (Continued).

Minor Ailments Clinics:—

School Clinic, 23, Hill Street, Haverfordwest.

Eastgate House Clinic, Narberth.

Tabernacle Chapel Vestry, Fishguard.

David Pettit Nursing Home, Milford Haven.

Beaufort House, Victoria Street, Tenby.

School Clinic, Monkton, Pembroke.

Area of County (Statutory Acres)	393,003
Average Number of Elementary School Pupils on Roll ...	10,314
Average Number of Secondary School Pupils on Roll ...	2,280
Number of School Departments in County Primary ...	140
Number of Secondary Schools	9

PEMBROKESHIRE SOCIETY FOR THE CARE OF CRIPPLES

Chairman: Mrs. SALMOND, O.B.E., "Craig-y-Mor," Saundersfoot.

Hon. Secretary: Miss NANCY THOMAS, J.P., "Craig-y-Mor,"
Saundersfoot.

Orthopædic Clinic:

COUNTY HOSPITAL ANNEXE, HAVERFORDWEST.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINICS.MEMORIAL CLINIC, COUNTY HOSPITAL ANNEXE,
HAVERFORDWEST.

DAVID PETTIT NURSING HOME, MILFORD HAVEN.

EASTGATE HOUSE CLINIC, NARBERTH.

COTTAGE HOSPITAL, TENBY.

MEYRICK HOSPITAL, PEMBROKE DOCK.

CHURCH HALL, FISHGUARD.

DR. ELLIOTT'S SURGERY, ST. DAVIDS.

DR. GIBBIN'S SURGERY, WHITLAND.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, CARDIGAN.

MEDICAL, DENTAL AND CLEANLINESS INSPECTIONS

There was no change in the arrangements for School Medical Inspection for the year under review.

The Groups medically examined were: 1st Group (Entrants); 2nd Group (Children aged 8-9); 3rd Group (Children aged 12 years and over).

In addition to the above examination, children found to be abnormal at a previous examination or referred for special examination on account of suspected defects, by nurses, teachers and parents, were medically examined.

In Dental Inspections, all children in the primary schools are given an opportunity of being examined every year. Also, children noted at medical inspections to be suffering from Oral Sepsis are referred to the School Dentist.

Cleanliness Inspections are undertaken by the School Nurses, and children found unclean are specially re-examined at the schools or homes, and are kept under observation until conditions are satisfactory.

MEDICAL INSPECTION — PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

The numbers examined were:—

Entrants	...	...	...	1489
Intermediates	...	...	...	1679
Leavers	...	...	...	882
Specials	...	...	...	285
Re-inspections	...	...	...	749
Total Inspections	...	...	...	<hr/>5084 <hr/>

Of the 4,335 children examined at Routine and Special Inspections, 789, or 18.2 per cent., were referred for treatment, and 899, or 20.7 per cent., had defects which required their being kept under observation,

FINDINGS AT MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS

UNCLEANLINESS.

During 1948 a total of 56,137 examinations for cleanliness were carried out by the school Health Visitors. 895 children were found with various forms of uncleanness.

MALNUTRITION.

The nutrition of the children remains good. Of the 4,050 children examined in the Routine Age Groups, 404 were regarded as being below normal. These children were placed on the observation list and examined at frequent intervals. Advice was given to parents as to diet and general welfare.

**RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN
THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1948.
PRIMARY**

Defect or Disease.	Periodic Inspections. No. of Defects.		Special Inspections. No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment
Skin	13	9	1	2
Eyes: (a) Vision	175	116	96	105
(b) Squint	24	26	6	14
(c) Other	12	11	6	6
Ears: (a) Hearing	3	9	1	4
(b) Otitis Media	7	15	—	4
(c) Other	6	6	2	—
Nose or Throat	322	362	209	183
Speech	12	3	2	4
Cervical Glands	9	94	3	38
Heart and Circulation	4	102	2	21
Lungs	8	89	3	22
DEVELOPMENT—				
(a) Hernia	3	4	—	3
(b) Other	8	6	2	7
ORTHOPAEDIC—				
(a) Posture	10	37	a —	13
(b) Flat Foot	12	22	5	12
(c) Other	10	44	7	23
NERVOUS SYSTEM—				
(a) Epilepsy	1	—	1	3
(b) Other	1	21	1	2
PSYCHOLOGICAL—				
(a) Development	—	9	1	6
(b) Stability	—	1	—	—
Other	3	11	5	15

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

The Orthopædic Clinics are held at the County War Memorial Hospital Annexe, Haverfordwest, monthly, and are attended by the Orthopædic Surgeon, who is assisted at the Clinics by the Orthopædic Nurse.

At the end of the year there were 368 children of school age on the Register, and 78 children under school age.; 239 new cases were ascertained and added to the Register during the year—196 children of school age and 43 under school age. A large proportion of these cases have minor degrees of deformity on which corrective treatment is being carried out by the School Medical Officers and Orthopædic Nurse.

The number of children examined by the Specialist was 221; the total attendances being 346.

18 manipulations and eight operations were carried out by the Orthopædic Specialist at the County Hospital. 19 children were put in special plaster, and a large number of cases received massage treatment and had alterations made to boots, irons, etc.

WORK DONE BY ORTHOPÆDIC NURSE.

Under 5.	Over 5.	Under 5.	Over 5.	No. of cases	
				Plaster renewed & repaired.	under Remedial Exercise & treatment.
25	163	143	738	24	96

Children requiring in-patient treatment are usually sent to the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Cardiff, but, owing to lack of beds, difficulty has been experienced in securing vacancies in the Hospital, with the result that only 12 children were admitted during the year, leaving seven on the waiting list.

ORTHOPÆDIC CASES IN COLLEGES AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

Three boys, having completed their surgical treatment, are being trained at Stanmore Cripples' Training College, Middlesex.

Two girls are receiving education and treatment at Halliwick Cripples' Training College, London.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

There are no special schools in the County for educationally sub-normal children and great difficulty is experienced in finding accommodation for Handicapped Children in schools outside the County owing to the very limited accommodation available.

The question of establishing a residential school for the three Counties, near Carmarthen, for educationally sub-normal and maladjusted children is now under consideration by the Welsh Joint Education Committee.

Special classes for educationally sub-normal children are held in a few of the larger schools.

DELICATE AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

The question of establishing two residential schools for delicate and physically handicapped children, one in the North and the other in the South of the County, is still under consideration.

SPEECH DEFECTS.

There are a number of children in various parts of the County who suffer from Speech Defects.

The Education Authority intended to employ a Speech Therapist, either by themselves or in conjunction with neighbouring Counties. Later, however, it was decided, owing to geographical and administrative difficulties, to try to have certain teachers trained sufficiently to be able to conduct Special Classes for these children.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN.

Defect.		At Public Elementary School.	At Certified Special School.	At Home.	Total.
Blind	...	2	4	1	7
Partially Blind	...	5	—	—	5
Deaf	...	4	3	—	7
Partially Deaf	...	2	—	—	2
Delicate	...	3	—	3	6
Diabetic	...	3	—	—	3
Educationally Sub-Normal		244	—	7	251
Epileptic	...	6	—	5	11
Maladjusted	...	3	—	—	3
Speech Defects	...	54	—	—	54
Physically Handicapped		43	3	5	51
Multiple Disabilities	...	2	—	6	8

VISUAL DEFECTS.

340 cases were submitted for refraction and attended eye clinics held at convenient centres throughout the County.

Six children were referred to the Ophthalmic Specialist for special examination on account of some disease of the eye which affected their vision.

Glasses were prescribed in 230 cases.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

543 children received operative treatment for unhealthy Tonsils and Adenoids under the Authority's Scheme.

23 children were referred to Dr. Robinson, the Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, for special examination. Eight received operative treatment and the remainder were recommended other forms of treatment.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Children suspected of suffering from tuberculosis in any form were referred to the Area Medical Officer of the King Edward VII. Welsh National Memorial Association for special examination.

During 1948, 311 school children were examined. Of these, six were found to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 10 from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. 116 were referred for re-examination later.

Five were admitted to Sanatoria or Hospitals.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The general incidence of infectious diseases has remained low throughout the County. It was considered necessary to close six schools on account of Measles and Whooping Cough.

No cases of Diphtheria were reported during the year. Eleven cases were notified in 1947.

Immunisation against Diphtheria has been continued under the direction of the District Medical Officers acting in co-operation with the County Health Department.

Parents are encouraged to have their infants completely immunised between 9 and 12 months. Reinforcing injections are given later.

1306 children were immunised during the year and reinforcing injections were given to 701 children.

PROVISION OF SCHOOL MEALS AND MILK.

The provision of meals includes both the provision of milk and mid-day meals.

All the Primary and Secondary Schools in the County are now served by Canteens and are provided with meals up to their full requirements.

The daily average number of children having meals at School—8487.

Average number of children having milk at School—8481.

FOLLOWING UP.

The System of following up defective children has been carried out on the same lines as in previous years.

Summary of Work undertaken by School Nurses.

Attendance at Inspections	...	...	...	192
Visits to Schools re Cleanliness	...	...	...	1153
Following-up Visits to Homes re Cleanliness	...	...	...	623
Following-up Visits to Homes re Physical Defects	...	...	...	244
Attendances at Dental Clinics	...	...	...	301
Attendances at Minor Ailments Clinics	...	...	...	943

MINOR AILMENTS.

Defect.				Treated by Nurse.	Treated by Parents under supervision of Nurse	Total.	No. of cases cured.
Ringworm—Head	...	...	...	21	16	37	30
Ringworm—Body	...	...	..	24	25	49	38
Scabies	...	...	...	14	16	30	30
Impetigo	...	...	...	171	58	229	205
Minor Injuries	...	...	...	433	441	477	461
Other Skin Diseases	...	...	...	53	20	73	68
Ear Diseases	...	...	..	72	5	77	71
External Eye Disease	...	...	...	45	14	59	55
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	360	43	403	351
TOTAL				1193	241	1434	1309

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

2,774 pupils were examined, at Routine Inspections. Of these, 265, or 9.55, were referred for treatment. and 262, or 9.44, for observation, 53 pupils were also specially examined, and of these six were referred for treatment and four for observation.

DEFECTIVE VISION.

154 were referred for treatment and 43 for observation. Three children were operated on for squint.

MALNUTRITION.

51 cases of malnutrition were found amongst Secondary School pupils examined.

NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

77 cases were referred for treatment, and 50 for further observation.

HEART AND CIRCULATION.

14 pupils were found with functional heart defects.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Three cases were referred to the Tuberculosis Physician.

DEFORMITIES.

30 pupils were referred for treatment and 133 for observation. Most of these cases were pupils suffering from minor postural defects and flat feet.

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE.

During the year 8,349 children were inspected; 4,356 were referred for treatment, and 2,511 were actually treated.

Summary of Treatment.

Number of fillings inserted in permanent teeth	...	686
Number of fillings inserted in temporary teeth	...	739
Number of permanent teeth extracted	...	422
Number of temporary teeth extracted	...	2353
Other operations—Permanent teeth	...	797
Temporary teeth	...	473

PRIMARY.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC
PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

A.—Routine Inspections .

Number of Inspections in the prescribed groups:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	1489
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	1679
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	882
Total	...	...	...	...	<hr/>4050 <hr/>

B.—Other Inspections.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	338
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	1529
Total	...	...	...	<hr/>1867 <hr/>

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children inspected during the Year
in the Routine Age Groups.

Age Groups.	No. of Children inspected	A. Good.		B. Fair.		C. Poor.	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	...	1489	8.13	1235	82.94	133	8.93
Second Age Group	...	1679	4.17	1427	84.99	182	10.84
Third Age Group	...	882	10.55	700	79.37	89	10.08
Totals	...	4050	7.01	3362	83.01	404	9.98

TABLE III.

TREATMENT TABLES.

Group I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness).

Total number of defects treated or under treatment during
the year under the Authority's Scheme ... 1434

Group II —DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

Disease or Defect.	No. of Defects dealt with. Under the Authority's Scheme.
(1)	(2)
Errors of Refraction (including squint) ...	340
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ...	6
Total ...	346
No. of Children for whom Spectacles were:—	
(a) Prescribed ...	230
(b) Obtained ...	230

Group III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Number of Defects.

Operative Treatment.	Others Forms of Treatment.	Total.
546	23	569

TABLE IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

1. Number of Children inspected ...	8349
2. Number of Children found to require treatment ...	4356
3. Number actually treated ...	2511
4. Attendances made by children for treatment ...	3851
5. Half-days devoted to:—	
Inspection ...	140
Treatment ...	662
6. Fillings:—	
Temporary Teeth ...	739
Permanent Teeth ...	686
Total ...	1425

7. Extractions:—					
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	2353
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	422
					<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	2775
					<hr/>
8. Administration of General Anæsthetics	...	...	...	...	54
9. Other operations:—					
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	473
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	797
					<hr/>
					1270
					<hr/>

TABLE V.

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

1. Average number of visits per school made during the the year by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	7
2. Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	56137
3. Number of individual children found unclean	...	...	...	...	685
4. Number of children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	...	538
5. Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:					
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	...	...	—
(b) Under the School Attendance Bye-laws	...	...	...	...	—

SECONDARY.

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.

Number of Code Inspections	...	...	...	...	2774
Entrants	...	...	...	...	1368
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	948
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	458
Special Inspections	...	...	...	...	53
					<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	2827
					<hr/>

Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections. No. of Defects.		Special Inspections. No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment
Skin ...	—	1	—	—
Eyes: (a) Vision ...	148	39	—	—
(b) Squint ...	6	4	—	—
(c) Other ...	—	—	—	—
Ears: (a) Hearing ...	1	—	—	—
(b) Otitis Media ...	1	—	—	—
(c) Other ...	—	1	—	—
Nose or Throat ...	76	49	3	—
Speech ...	2	1	—	1
Cervical Glands ...	—	9	—	—
Heart and Circulation ...	1	13	—	—
Lungs ...	—	13	—	—
DEVELOPMENT—				
(a) Hernia ...	—	—	—	—
(b) Other ...	—	—	—	—
ORTHOPAEDIC—				
(a) Posture ...	4	11	—	—
(b) Flat Foot ...	11	77	—	1
(c) Other ...	15	45	—	—
NERVOUS SYSTEM—				
(a) Epilepsy ...	—	—	—	—
(b) Other ...	1	—	—	—
PSYCHOLOGICAL—				
(a) Development... ..	—	—	—	—
(b) Stability ...	—	—	—	—
Other ...	2	6	—	—

TREATMENT RETURNS.

Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Disease treated as Minor Ailments).

Disease or Defect.	Number of Cases dealt with		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
Errors of Refraction	175	16	191
Other Defects or Disease of the Eyes ...	—	—	—
Total	175	16	191
No. of Pupils for whom Spectacles were:			
(a) Prescribed	146	—	146
(b) Obtained	146	11	157

Classification of the Nutrition of Pupils inspected during the year in
the Routine Age Groups.

Age Groups.		A.		B.		C.			
		No. of Pupils inspected		Good.		Fair.		Poor.	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	...	1368	407	29.75	931	68.06	30	2.19	
Intermediates	...	948	379	39.98	555	58.54	14	1.48	
Leavers	...	458	172	37.55	279	60.92	7	1.53	
Total		2774	958	34.53	1765	63.63	51	1.84	

